

March 15, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *In the Matter of Modification of the Universal Licensing System to Allow TV Pickup Stations and Remote Pickup Stations to Document the Locations and Heights of Their Receiver-Only Sites*

Ex Parte Presentation; RM No. 11308

Dear Ms. Dortch:

CTIA – The Wireless Association® (“CTIA”)¹ respectfully submits this *ex parte* filing in the above-referenced proceeding. CTIA opposes the Petition for Rulemaking filed by the Society of Broadcast Engineers, Incorporated (“SBE”), which would impose additional and unnecessary coordination requirements on wireless industry licensees. SBE is advocating modification of the Universal Licensing System (“ULS”) to permit documentation of the locations and heights of electronic news gathering receive-only (ENG-RO) facilities. SBE believes these modifications would allow for additional prior coordination between wireless and Broadcast Auxiliary Service (“BAS”) licensees and also contemplates lower emissions by wireless licensees.

CTIA opposes any modification that would impose additional coordination and other unnecessary burdens on wireless licensees and, as such, urges the Commission to dismiss SBE’s petition for rulemaking. To the extent that SBE is only asking for “voluntary” coordination, which can and does occur today, a rulemaking is unnecessary and therefore also should be dismissed.² As parties are making plans for the upcoming Advanced Wireless Service (AWS) auction, scheduled to begin on June 29, 2006, it would be particularly troublesome for the FCC to initiate a rulemaking on SBE’s requests, which would only create additional uncertainty about AWS licensee rights and obligations.

¹ CTIA is the international organization of the wireless communications industry for both wireless carriers and manufacturers. Membership in the organization covers Commercial Mobile Radio Service (“CMRS”) providers and manufacturers, including cellular, broadband PCS, and ESMR, as well as providers and manufacturers of wireless data services and products.

² See Society of Broadcast Engineers, Inc., Comments, RM No. 11308, filed March 2, 2006, at 2.

SBE proposes that additional prior coordination could result in wireless licensees deploying new operations to select different base stations, conduct equipment tests, or possibly install special filters, as a way to avoid interference with these receive-only stations.³ However, the Commission's rules do not require coordination with such stations. When the Commission adopted its AWS rules, it established a requirement that AWS and BAS licensees mutually coordinate placement of base stations that might interfere with each other.⁴ This is the same coordination model that the Commission has employed many times in the past to address mutual base-to-base interference. The AWS rules adopted by the Commission appropriately require coordination only with BAS base stations and not with receive-only stations.

Moreover, installation of special filters is unnecessary because mobile wireless services already comply with the Commission's rules regarding out-of-band emissions limitations, which protect reasonably configured BAS equipment from harmful interference. CTIA also strongly opposes any implementation of a stricter emissions mask to protect legacy BAS sites.⁵ Wireless services already comply with the rules developed by the Commission to regulate potential interference between BAS and wireless services.

Prior coordination and additional emissions restrictions on mobile wireless services will only serve to hinder and delay the deployment of advanced technologies. These restrictions will not help consumers, but will instead result in increased prices for consumers. Therefore, CTIA urges the Commission to dismiss SBE's petition for a rulemaking to modify the ULS.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Paul Garnett*

Paul Garnett

³ Society of Broadcast Engineers, Inc., *Petition for Rulemaking*, RM No. 11308, filed September 6, 2005, at 3 ("*SBE Petition*").

⁴ Service Rules for Advanced Wireless Services in the 1.7 GHz and 2.1 GHz Bands, *Report and Order*, 18 FCC Rcd 25162, 25211-12, ¶ 130 (2003).

⁵ SBE Petition at 2.